normal position. In choosing the time for Cesarean section the author would operate as soon as the cervix is obliterated and the os will admit one finger. He does not rupture the membranes before operation. For controlling hemorrhage, he recommends a large pessary which, being pressed down upon the uterus, controls the circulation efficiently. It should be removed as soon as the uterus has been opened. His uterine stitches include the muscle and peritoneum, but he does not insert separate sutures for the peritoneum. He avoids contact with the interior of the uterus and trusts to a firm binder to keep the dressing in position. He does not use salt solution in the abdomen during the operation. Porro's operation is sometimes selected because it can be done quickly. Cœliohysterectomy is also preferred when further pregnancy is not to occur.

The author contributes two full and interesting chapters upon injuries and malformations of the newborn child. The volume concludes with a chapter upon infant feeding. Appended are the statistics of the Glasgow Maternity Hospital for three decades, a table of 41,111 cases. Among these, 137 deaths occurred, due primarily to parturition, of which 46 resulted from septicemia. At present rigid antiseptic precautions are adopted during labor and the puerperal period. Examinations are made as rarely as possible. The result has been a gratifying decrease in the number of infections.

This book should prove especially valuable to experienced men engaged in obstetric practice. Its cases are fully and clearly described and important clinical points are thoroughly brought out. It will be of less value to the student of medicine until he becomes a resident in a hospital. The style is clear and interesting, and it will prove a welcome addition to obstetric literature. Its popularity is already attested by the appearance of a second edition.

E. P. D.

A TEXT-BOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY. By WILLIAM H. HOWELL, Ph.D., M.D., LL.D., Professor of Physiology in the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders & Co., 1905.

AT the present time it is almost impossible in any department of science to embody in a text-book for students all the known facts, as well as the conflicting theories, concerning disputed and unsettled points. To include everything, statements must be so brief and concise that to the beginner they lose their force and meaning. The reduction in material, as the author states in his preface, "should be made by a process of elimination rather than by condensation."

This seems a very wise way out of the difficulty and a most successful one, as the book itself shows. From the author's practical experience and wide knowledge he is enabled to select certain phases of his subject which must be expanded sufficiently to make them perfectly clear, even if less important matter must be omitted. This scheme has been carried out with an excellent result. Many antiquated theories, many long and complicated hypotheses to explain unimportant points, are passed by with little more than respectful mention, while the more real and growing subjects are often discussed with some detail. But this selection and elimination is done with the utmost care, and with full knowledge of the worth of what is kept and the value of what is cast away.

In the selected subjects the material is carefully worked over; it is modern and suggestive in its treatment, so that the reader obtains a clear and definite idea of the subject as it stands today. The sections on the central nervous system, the organs of circulation, the respiration, and digestion deserve special mention.

Throughout the text there are many illustrations which assist greatly in explaining certain points. Excellent use is made of cardiographic tracings and charts of various kinds. A good feature, too, is the references to orginal articles inserted as foot notes on almost every page. The delightfully clear style makes reading easy and adds much to the general character of the work. The book can be very highly recommended; it is really of great value. W. T. L.

A HAND-BOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY. By AUSTIN FLINT, Professor of Physiology in the Cornell University Medical College. New York and London: The Macmillan Company, 1905.

THIS book presents the subject of physiology as taught the students of the Cornell University Medical College. In several features it is very interesting. The historical side of physiology is especially brought into prominence, and the work of Harvey, Malpighi, Haller, Du Bois-Reymond, Bernard, and such pioneers is frequently cited, especially in introducing the various subjects which these men illuminated. The anatomical facts bearing upon physiology are given a relatively large place and the illustration of the histology of the more important organs form a special feature. These illustrations are reproductions of three-color photomicrographs—a process used for the first time in this kind of work—and are collected at the end of the book as an atlas of sixteen plates. Although they are an improvement over ordinary photomicrographs as means of illustrations, they still possess much of the indefiniteness of outline and lack of character which make them rather unsatisfactory.